Purchase of Nuclear Plant by Pakistan from France

1538. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKR1SHNA: PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had taken up the matter regarding the possibility of purchase of nuclear plant from France by Pakistan with the President of France during his recent visit to the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what was his reaction in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO); (a) to (c) No, Sir. We understand that no new developments have taken place recently in this area between France and Pakistan. We are, however, keeping a close watch on the situation. The French are aware of our serious concern about the weapons oriented nuclear programme of Pakistan.

Amounts for Improvement of National Waterways

1539. SHRI T.R. BALU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 15 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd November, 1988 and state what is the length of wateways proposed to be declared as National Waterways and amount proposed to be spent for their improvement during the next Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Out of ten waterways identified for considera--tion for declaration as National Waterways, Ganga-Bhagirathi stretch (1620 kms) and Sadiya-Dhubri stretch (891 kms) have already been declared as National Waterways. In respect of Quilon-Cochin Section of West Coast Canal alongwith Champakara Canal and Udyog Mandal Canal (210 kms) studies have been completed as a prelude to the declaration of National Waterway.

As regards remaining, the specific waterways, the length in each such waterway to be declared as National Waterway and the financial outlay on them will be decided after finalisation of the VIITth plan.

Safety Measures Laid Down by DGCA

1540. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:
SHRI KAMAL MORARKA.
SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation has laid down stringent measure for pilots, engineers and grpund staff to ensure utmost flight safety;

(b) if so, what are the details of the instructions issued in this regard; and

(c) what are the details of the fresh steps contemplated in this regard and the extent to which safety of passengers would be ensured thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Stringent measures have been laid down for the issue of licences to Pilots, Flight Engineers and Aircraft, Maintenance Engineers. The standards for the issue of licences are in conformity with International standards specified by International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO).

Rule 81-B of the Aircraft Rules has been amended, which prohibits slaughtering and flaying of animals, depositing of